

1203

EXTRACT: "The Chinese Incident and Imperial Diplomacy"
by KAWAI, Tatsuo, August, 1938, Page 92.

One year prior to the Marco Polo (Loukouchiaio) Bridge Incident, a movement for autonomy of the five provinces in North China was launched. As a natural result of the fact Japan had contributed much to the establishment of Manchoukuo and that Japan's actual influence was firmly established throughout the areas east of Hsingan ranges and south of the Amur River in Manchuria, that "horizontal tendency" was directed to North China and there is an equation for this as set forth in history.

Thus, the autonomy movement of the five provinces in North China was started. Thereupon, Japan demanded the autonomy of the five provinces of North China. However, the Chinese Government cleverly checked Japan's southward advance, and this movement of autonomy for North China decreased from five to two provinces, and also in these two provinces this political movement was turned into an economic problem, and that economic movement in the long run gained nothing or it was narrowed down to such trivial questions of rights and interests of Tsang-shi Railway or Lung-yen Iron Mine and all this finally failed to bear any fruit. This result made its appearance as (Loukouchiaio) Marco Polo Bridge Incident.